

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A compound corresponding to the formula:



in which:

- R represents a hydrogen, an alkyl, an aryl, a trialkylsilyl, a trialkylamino or an alkali metal;
- R^1 represents an alkyl or an aryl;
- x is 0 or 1;
- y is an integer from 1 to 22;
- $z \geq 3$;
- t is 0 or 1.

2. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein R is an alkyl radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

3. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R is trialkylsilyl group R'3Si- in which the R' substituents represent identical or different alkyl groups having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms.

4. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R is a trialkylamino group R"3N- in which the R" substituents represent identical or different alkyl groups having from 1 to 5 carbon atoms.

5. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R is an alkali metal chosen from Na and K.

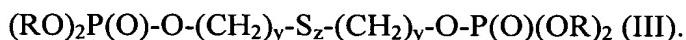
6. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein x = 0.

7. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterized in that it~~ corresponds corresponding to the formula (RO)2P(O)-(CH₂)_y-S_z-(CH₂)_y-P(O)(OR)₂ (II).

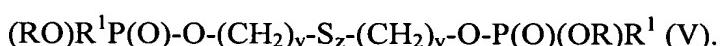
8. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterized in that it~~ corresponds corresponding to the formula (RO)R¹P(O)-(CH₂)_y-S_z-(CH₂)_y-P(O)(OR)R' (IV).

9. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein x = 1.

10. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 9, ~~characterized in that it corresponds corresponding~~ to the formula



11. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 9, ~~characterized in that it corresponds corresponding~~ to the formula



12. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ z is on average equal to 4.

13. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ R¹ is an alkyl radical having from 1 to 18 carbon atoms or an aryl radical chosen from the phenyl, benzyl or tolyl radicals.

14. (Currently Amended) The compound as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ y is an integer from 2 to 4.

15. (Currently Amended) A composite material comprising an elastomeric matrix and an inorganic filler, ~~characterized in that it comprises wherein the material comprises~~ a compound as claimed in claim 1 as a coupling agent.

16. (Currently Amended) The material as claimed in claim 15, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the inorganic filler is an oxide, a hydroxide, a carbonate or a silicoaluminate.

17. (Currently Amended) The material as claimed in claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the inorganic filler is a metallic material chosen from steels, aluminum and copper.

18. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound as claimed in claim 7 in which each of the R groups is an alkyl Ra and z = 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

- during a first stage, the trialkoxyphosphonate P(ORa)₃ (VI) is reacted with the ~~dibromoalkylene~~ dibromoalkane Br-(CH₂)_y-Br (VII) at a temperature of the order of 140°C in order to obtain Br-(CH₂)_y-P(O)(ORa)₂ (VIII),
- during a second stage, the phosphonate Br-(CH₂)_y-P(O)(ORa)₂ (VIII) is reacted with Na₂S₄ under reflux of the methanol in order to obtain the compound (RaO)₂P(O)-(CH₂)_y-S₄-(CH₂)_y-P(O)(ORa)₂ (IIa).

19. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound as claimed in claim 7 in which each of the R groups is a trialkylsilyl R'₃Si-, ~~characterized in that it consists in~~ comprising reacting the compound (RaO)₂P(O)-(CH₂)_y-S₄-(CH₂)_y-P(O)(ORa)₂ (IIa) with a trialkylsilyl bromide R'₃SiBr in a 1/4 molar ratio in order to obtain the compound (IIb) (R'₃SiO)₂P(O)-(CH₂)_y-S₄-(CH₂)_y-P(O)(OSiR'₃)₂.

20. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound as claimed in claim 7 in which R is H, ~~characterized in that it consists in~~ comprising hydrolyzing a compound (Ra)₂P(O)-(CH₂)_y-S₄-(CH₂)_y-P(O)(ORa)₂ in which Ra is an alkyl or hydrolyzing or alcoholyzing a compound (R'₃SiO)₂P(O)-(CH₂)_y-S₄-(CH₂)_y-P(O)(OSiR'₃)₂.

21. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound as claimed in claim 10 in which R represents H, ~~characterized in that wherein:~~

- during a first stage, $\text{P}(\text{O})\text{Cl}_3$ is reacted with $\text{HO}(\text{CH}_2)_y\text{Cl}$ in stoichiometric proportions in order to obtain the compound $\text{Cl}(\text{CH}_2)_y\text{OP}(\text{O})\text{Cl}_2$;
- during a second stage, the compound $\text{Cl}(\text{CH}_2)_y\text{OP}(\text{O})\text{Cl}_2$ is hydrolyzed in order to obtain the compound $\text{Cl}(\text{CH}_2)_y\text{OPO}_3\text{H}_2$;
- during a third stage, $\text{Cl}(\text{CH}_2)_y\text{OPO}_3\text{H}_2$ is reacted with Na_2S_4 under reflux of the methanol and then an ion exchange is carried out in order to obtain the compound $(\text{HO})_2\text{P}(\text{O})-\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_y-\text{S}_z-(\text{CH}_2)_y-\text{O}-\text{P}(\text{O})(\text{OH})_2$.